

Soldiers with small or large heads can cause big headaches for you NBC NCOs when it comes to fitting an M40 or M42 mask. But there are ways to relieve your headaches and make sure soldiers are protected..

Use the M41 protection assessment test system (PATS) instead of banana oil to test every mask. PATS is much more accurate than banana oil.

If a small mask is too big to create a good seal, readjust and tighten the head harness, then test with PATS again. Sometimes that's enough for the mask to pass.

If the mask still doesn't pass, replace the headharness with a skull cap head harness, NSN 4240-01-390-3057, and re-check.

Still no luck? Then check out TB 3-4240-341-20-1, *Chemical-Biological Protective Mask for Hard-to-Fit Service Members*, for further help. If nothing works, tell your CO. He will decide if the soldier is deployable.

Check out the TB if the M40 or M42 large mask is too small for a soldier, too.



